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GWU Professor Named Vice President of Statewide American Sign Language (ASL) Group

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Office of University Communications

March 6, 2014

Robert Moore Appointed to North Carolina ASL Teacher's Association

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University's Robert Moore provides his time and talents to support the efforts of the North Carolina American Sign Language Teacher's Association (NCASLTA) and was recently named the group's vice president. Moore serves in the GWU Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures as instructor of American Sign Language (ASL) studies.

The NCASLTA is a state charter of the national American Sign Language Teachers Association, based in Rochester, N.Y. The organization's purpose includes preserving and promoting ASL as a heritage language, providing a closer relationship between ASL teachers and Deaf Studies and groups with similar interests, creating an effective way for the exchange of teaching methods, and providing professional development opportunities. They also offer a certification system to ensure qualified teachers of ASL and deaf studies and methods to achieve and maintain necessary accreditation.

"My primary duty as vice president is to oversee various committees and their activities," said Moore. "I also serve as acting president in their absence."

Moore was asked how technology might have changed the ways ASL is taught and presented in today's world. "ASL is preferred to be taught in a classroom setting because it is a visual language and requires face to face communication," he explained. "Technology like Skype is still a challenge because it often slows the motion between signers. The changes we have experienced with the use of video is that students can leave their assignments on websites such as YouTube."

Moore, a native of Alabama, began at GWU as an adjunct professor in 2002 before advancing to a full time instructor in 2006. Due to his efforts, along with others in the department, ASL studies continues to attract many students who are seeking opportunities to further their knowledge in another language as they advance towards the next step in their academic journey and ultimately, their potential career.

More information is available on the GWU World Languages, Literatures and Cultures at 704-406-4415.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University offers a comprehensive academic experience that introduces students to the diverse world of ideas and to the people who think them, preparing them for professional success and for productive citizenship.